

Did you know...



Play is the most age-appropriate way for young children to learn. Playing with words is a great way for your child to hear the different sounds and parts of the words that make up their language.

Help your child recognize that some words rhyme, some words begin with the same sound, and some words end the same. Children who begin to notice these things are developing *phonological awareness*. Most children who have a strong sense of phonological awareness have an easier time learning to read.

See www.phonologicalawareness.org for ideas.

Here's how...



- ❖ Say nursery rhymes so that your child hears words that rhyme. Emphasize the rhyming words. "Twinkle, twinkle, little **star**, How I wonder what you **are**."
- ❖ Help your child find rhyming families: "Let's think of words that rhyme with 'cat': hat, bat, fat..." It's ok if they find a nonsense word that rhymes, such as 'gat.'
- ❖ Change the words in a nursery rhyme or song with silly or nonsense rhyming words. "Willaby wallaby woo, an elephant sat on you" becomes "Willaby, wallaby, wottle, an elephant sat on a bottle."
- ❖ Play "I Spy" games with rhyming words or beginning sounds. "I spy with my little eye something that begins with a 'f-f-f' sound (foot)," or "I spy something that rhymes with far (car)."

Read

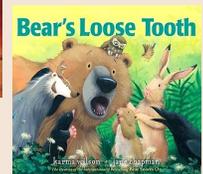
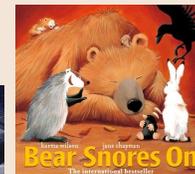
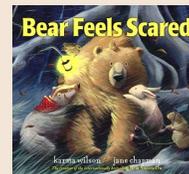


Bear Wants More, **by Karma Wilson**

Spring is here! Bear has awakened from his hibernation and is hungry, hungry, hungry! Join him on a rhyme-filled eating adventure with his forest friends.



More *Bear* books by Karma Wilson:



Choosing Books



Types of books that help your child play with words...

Rhyming books

Dr. Seuss books

Mother Goose Nursery Rhyme books

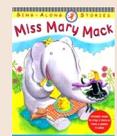
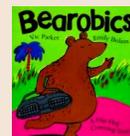
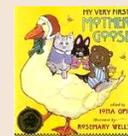
Books that illustrate a familiar song

Books with a rhythm or beat

Books with animal noises

Books that have repeating words or sounds

Books that have rhythm



Talk



Go on a “rare word” hunt through books such as *Bear Wants More*. Talk about the interesting words you find together.

Write



Write your child a short “Morning Message” each day. You can use a dry erase or chalkboard, or just paper and pencil.

Dear Mary,
Today is Monday. It is a school day. After school we will go to Grandma's.
Love, Mom

Have her put her finger on top of yours, then point to each word as you read it aloud. Writing some of the same words each day will help your child begin to recognize letters, sounds, and some simple words and names.

Play



Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear

(Match body movements to words)

Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, shut the door.

Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, count to four.

Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, reach up high.

Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, wink one eye.

Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, put away your shoes.

Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, that will do.

Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, touch your nose.

Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, touch your toes.

Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, climb in bed.

Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, rest your head.

Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, turn out the light.

Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, say, “Goodnight.”

Sing



The Bear Went Over the Mountain

The bear went over the mountain,

The bear went over the mountain,

The bear went over the mountain,

To see what he could see.

The other side of the mountain,

The other side of the mountain,

The other side of the mountain,

Was all that he could see.

The other side of the mountain,

Was all that he could see!



To hear the tune of this song, visit:
www.kididdles.com/lyrics/b005.html

At your library...



Don't have a library card? You can still visit your library for storytimes or to read with your child. Ask your librarian about how to apply for your own card today!